

Message Text

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ORIGIN DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-13 AID-05 L-03
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 ORM-02 /088 R

DRAFTED BY D/HA:WGMETSON/CV

APPROVED BY D/HA:JLCARLIN

D/HA:SCLOWMAN

NEA/AFN:DJAMESON/JBISHOP

IO/AGR:JWOLF(SUB)

IO/UNP:SESUDERO(INFO)

FFP/POD:BDODSON

AF/I:SMERCERIO(SUB)

-----099832 050302Z /64

P 041745Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 183103

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:SREF

SUBJECT: US CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR APPEAL FOR SAHARAN
REFUGEES

REF: ALGIERS 1848

1. REFTEL AND PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE INDICATE THAT UNHCR
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IS HAVING CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY OPERATING IN ALGERIA.
PART OF THE PROBLEM APPEARS TO BE THAT UNHCR ONLY DEALS
WITH THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY, BUT DECISION-MAKING
POWERS LIE IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY, ACCORDING
TO UNHCR.

2. ACCORDING TO UNHCR NEW YORK, WHICH GOT ITS INFORMATION

FROM GENEVA, UNHCR HAS MADE A FORMAL REQUEST TO STATION A REPRESENTATIVE IN TINDOUF, AND HAS ASSIGNED A PERSON FOR THAT POST, BUT THE REQUEST HAS NOT BEEN ACTED UPON YET. THE PERSON SELECTED GOES TO TINDOUF "FROM TIME TO TIME". REQUEST EMBASSY VERIFY THIS REPORT SINCE IT APPEARS TO BE IN CONFLICT WITH ARNAOUT CONVERSATION REFTEL.

3. UNHCR WAS DISCUSSING PROBLEM OF LETTER FROM ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT TO WFP MORNING OF JULY 26. OSTENSIBLE PROBLEM IS THAT ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ACCEPTED THE HIGH COMMI-

SIONER AS COORDINATOR FOR SAHARAN REFUGEES AND BELIEVES THAT HIGH COMMISSIONER IN HIS CAPACITY AS COORDINATOR SHOULD WRITE LETTER, A PROCEDURE APPARENTLY UNACCEPTABLE TO WFP. GENEVA HOPES PROBLEM WILL BE IRONED OUT SHORTLY.

4. SOME FOOD IS GETTING TO THE REFUGEES. STAPLE FOODS FROM SWEDEN HAVE BEEN SHIPPED TO ALGIERS OR ORAN, WHERE EITHER UNHCR TRUCKS OR ALGERIAN RED CRESCENT TRUCKS (UNHCR OPERATES WITH THE ALGERIAN, BUT NOT THE SAHRAOUI RED CRESCENT) PICK IT UP AND CARRY IT TO TINDOUF. IN TINDOUF SAHRAOUI RED CRESCENT JEEPS DISTRIBUTE THE FOOD TO THE CAMPS. UNHCR DOES NOT OVERSEE FINAL DISTRIBUTION.

5. ALTHOUGH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER CONTINUES TO URGE CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIS APPEAL AND DEPARTMENT REMAINS CONFIDENTIAL

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CONCERNED ABOUT PLIGHT OF REFUGEES DEPT BELIEVES THAT WE SHOULD AWAIT RESOLUTION OF UNHCR'S OPERATING DIFFICULTIES BEFORE UNDERTAKING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF CONTRIBUTION OF EITHER FOOD OR CASH. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RELIEF, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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TAGS: SREF, US, UNHCR
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